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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/081,678 | LEBLANC, WILFRID | |
| | Examiner Ramnandan Singh | Art Unit 2644 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to Oct. 25, 2004.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9, 11-20, 22-31, 33 and 34.
3. The drawings filed on 22 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

Claim 1 identifies the uniquely distinct feature of a method of processing communication signals in a communication system having a tone detector for detecting a tone in a communication signal, comprising steps of: (a) receiving a communication signal with a non-linear processor (NLP) adapted to examine the signal and to decide whether or not to enter an active state based upon a parameter of the signal, wherein if the NLP enters an active state, the NLP performs non-linear processing on the signal; (b) indicating to the tone detector whether the NLP is active or inactive; and (c) if the NLP is active, disabling a processing step of the tone detector. As such, claim 1 requires indicating to the tone detector whether the NLP is active or inactive, and if the NLP is active, disabling a processing step of the tone detector. While the closest prior art, Rabenko et al [US 20010033583 A1], Kwan [US 6,504,838 B1] and Eriksson et al [US 6,06,873] each teach a nonlinear processor (NLP) in a communication system , Rabenko et al using multiple tone detectors, Kwan using a detector to detect a parameter of a communication signal, and Eriksson et al controlling a state of a non-linear processor; none of them show or suggest indicating to the tone detector whether the NLP is active or inactive, and if the NLP is active, disabling a processing step of the tone detector. As such, the prior art, either singularly or in combination fail to anticipate or render the above limitation obvious. Therefore, Claim 1 is allowed. Independent claims 11, 22, 33 and 34 are essentially similar to claim 1 and hence they are also allowed. Claims 2-9 being depenedent from claim 1, claims 12-20 being dependent from claim 11, and claims 23-31 being dependent from claim 22 are also allowed.

The claims have been re-numbered as follows:

| CLAIMS NUMBER (ORIGINAL) | CLAIMS NUMBER (FINAL) |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1-9 | 1-9 |
| 11-20 | 10-19 |
| 22-31 | 20-29 |
| 33-34 | 30-31 |

Claim no. 1 along with figure number 7 will be published in the Official Gazette.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Allowance".



SINH TRAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER